

Land & Water Conservation Committee (LWCC) Minutes December 19, 2012

1. Call to order:

The monthly meeting was called to order by Walt Christensen at 8:30 a.m. Committee members Sarah Bregant and Matt Foelker were present. Mark Watkins, Director, Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD); Beth Klotz, LWCD; John Molinaro, County Board Chairman; and Dennis Vollmer also attended. Scott Zimmerman arrived at 8:34 a.m. Phil Ristow, Corporation Counsel, arrived at 8:42 a.m.

2. Roll call (establish a quorum):

A quorum was established.

3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law:

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

4. Review of the December agenda:

The December agenda was reviewed by the committee members.

5. Review and approval of the November meeting minutes:

Foelker made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes as written, Bregant seconded. Motion carried, 3/0.

6. Communications:

There were no communications at this time.

7. Citizens comments:

There were no citizen comments.

8. Farm ground for UW-Extension test plots:

Due to upcoming personnel changes at UW-Extension, the farm ground for test plots request will not be pursued at this time.

9. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report:

Dennis Vollmer presented a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report. See attached.

10. Infrastructure Committee update regarding the purchase of Old Countryside

John Molinaro stated that Phil Ristow and he attended the City of Jefferson public hearing last night. Ristow gave a brief presentation regarding the proposed new highway facility at the meeting. No one spoke for or against the facility. The City of Jefferson will vote on amending their plan on January 2, 2013. If approved, the next step would be to approach the zoning issue.

11. Discussion and possible action on highway facility study

Ristow informed the committee that some farmland may be used in building the new highway facility. Additional farmland may be available for rent due to the acquisition of Old Countryside. The farmland lease can be adjusted when the current lease expires after the 2013 growing season. This item will be on the February agenda.

12. Discussion and possible action on information land values study:

There is nothing new to report on this item at this time. This item will be on the February agenda.

13. Notice of Non-compliance with Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)

Merle C Fischer requested to be removed from the Farmland Preservation Program.

William L Laird, Curtis J & Mary A Pernat, Victoria M Gwidt and Thomas and Kathleen Beane Trust have not satisfied the recertification requirements and therefore need to be removed from the Farmland Preservation Program.

Foelker moved and Bregant seconded to remove Merle C Fischer, William L Laird, Curtis J & Mary A Pernat, Victoria M Gwidt and Thomas and Kathleen Beane Trust from the Farmland Preservation Program. Motion carried, 4/0.

14. Cancellation of Notice of Noncompliance with Soil and Water Conservation Requirements – Farmland Preservation Program

Ryann Butz requested that his notice of noncompliance be cancelled and that he be reinstated into the Farmland Preservation Program.

Zimmerman moved and Foelker seconded to cancel Ryann Butz's notice of noncompliance and reinstate him into the Farmland Preservation Program. Motion carried, 4/0.

15. Monthly Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) financial report:

The most current revenue and expenditure sheets were distributed. See attached. The department is on target for expenses and revenues at this time.

16. Set next meeting and possible agenda items:

Foelker moved and Bregant seconded to cancel the January Land & Water Conservation Committee meeting, with the possibility of calling a meeting if something time sensitive comes up. Motion carried, 4/0.

It was decided by the members that the next scheduled meeting of the Land & Water Conservation Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2012 at 8:30 in Room 202. Possible agenda items include: Monthly financial report, discussion and possible action on proposed highway facility study, and discussion and possible action on information regarding land values, and an update from the Infrastructure Committee regarding the purchase of the old countryside property.

17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Christensen and seconded by Zimmerman at 8:58 a.m. Motion carried, 4/0.